

## **History of the Olympian Club**

### **1850-1950 Centennial History**

In Provo, at a dinner party held September, 1944, Mrs Maurine Hughes, State Director for Federated Clubs, asked Arlene Allred Keate if she would like to start a Junior Ladies Federated Club in Lehi. She told her the requirements and that there should be twelve girls to organize.

The last week in September a group of young women met at the home of Arlene Allred Keate where they formed a new Literary Club and Called it the Junior Athenian. They had as their sponsor the Athenian Club. Officers chosen that night to officiate for the first year were as follows: president Arlene Keate; vice president, Ruth Worlton, secretary, Marjorie Walker; treasurer, Karlyn Russon; historian, Leola Allred; program committee, Florence Adams and Marjorie Booth. The first three officers were voted upon: the remainder were chosen by the president. The original membership numbered sixteen.

The club members chose orchid and yellow as their colors and for the club flower the lilac was selected.

The main aim of the members in forming this new club was to be able to spend an evening away from home every other week where they could meet with other young homemakers like themselves who were interested in improving themselves as homemakers and as citizens. They plan on doing this by keeping their minds alive to things of cultural value as well as those used in everyday living.

The first year's program centered around such topics as poetry, hobbies, religion, and book reviews. Through the years the yearly programs have mainly centered around these topics. This year the club had various people talk to them on the subjects of flower arrangements, hostess tips, landscaping, interior decorating, and marriage and family problems, all of which have been very helpful to building a happy successful home life.

The name of the club was changed from the Junior Athenian to the Olympian Club at a meeting held May 10, 1945. at the home of Betty Hall.

The club received its certificate of membership to the General Federation of Women's Clubs, February 28, 1945, but was federated one year prior to this.

The main project of the club, which had been carried through to a successful completion since the first year, in the Spring tea sponsored for the high school girl graduate and their mothers.

Each year the club has endeavored to help with any project within the community, state, or nation that was worthy and brought to their attention. The first year each member donated 25 cents toward the purchase of a resuscitator for the Lehi Hospital. Money was donated for the Red Cross and Cancer Funds.

Many projects were sponsored for the Veterans at the Veterans Hospital, the foremost being the knitting of a afghan with each member contributing a number of blocks. Members sent old jewelry, leather purses, and musical instruments for use by the soldiers in handicraft work. Each member donated twenty five cents for magazines and birthday gifts for the veterans.

In 1946, each club member donated one or more vases to the Lehi Hospital, made paper bags, sewed sheets, and mended baby clothes for the same organization.

The club has aided with the Cemetery Drive by selling tickets to dances given and helping to plant tulips in the cemetery. The members, as individuals, have helped collect money for the United States War fund and the Red Cross Drives.

Each year members have donated money to the Red Cross Fund, Rheumatic Fever Fund, Poliomyelitis Fund and Cancer Fund.

The present officers are as follows: president, Betty Larsen; vice president, Lorrell Bateman, secretary and reporter Relva Leany and historian Irene Peters. There are at the present twenty-five members.